



The Workforce Connection Board and Chief Elected Officials

The Workforce Connection, Inc.

Local Workforce Innovation Board

Serving Boone, Stephenson, and Winnebago Counties

Meeting Date: Tuesday, April 7, 2026

Time: 8:00 am to 9:00 am

Location: Region 1 Planning Council, 127 N. Wyman Street, Rockford, Illinois

RSVP to: coysti@theworkforceconnection.org or 815-395-6676

Mission Statement

The Workforce Connection is committed to providing a workforce that meets the needs of the business community now and in the future.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order

- TWC Board Michelle Cassaro, TWC Board Chair
- Chief Elected Officials Mayor Thomas McNamara, CEO Chair

2. Roll Call

- TWC Board
- Chief Elected Officials

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes - TWC Board & CEO Action Item (Voice Vote)

- a. TWC Board Meeting Minutes – 12/02/25 Michelle Cassaro, TWC Board Chair
- b. CEO Meeting Minutes – 12/02/25 Mayor Thomas McNamara, CEO Chair

4. Board Member Recognition

Michelle Cassaro

5. Approval of Award Office Space Lease Request for Proposal - TWC Board & CEO Action Item (Roll Call Vote)

Dr. Gina Caronna, President & CEO

6. Approval of Program Year 2025 Mid-Year Budget Modification - TWC Board & CEO Action Item (Roll Call Vote)

Paul Nolley, Finance Committee Chair

7. Approval of Regional and Local Plan Modification - TWC Board & CEO Action Item (Voice Vote)

Dr. Gina Caronna

8. **Approval of Policy Changes - TWC Board & CEO Action Item (Voice Vote)** Dr. Gina Caronna
- **Work-Based Learning Policy**
9. **Approval of Training Provider/Program Approvals and Reapprovals - TWC Board & CEO Action Item (Voice Vote)** Emily Welsh, Grant Compliance Manager
10. **Finance** Paul Nolley
- Finance Report – February 2026
 - Financial Audit Program Year 2024 (July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025)
 - Community Foundation 12/31/25 Update
11. **Labor Force and Employment Update** Logan Taira, Workforce Analysis & Dissemination
Economic Information & Analysis Division - Illinois Department of Employment Security
12. **Presentation by CEJA Contractor Incubator** Khay Horton, Program Director
13. **Board Chair’s Remarks** Michelle Cassaro
14. **President & CEO’s Remarks** Dr. Gina Caronna
15. **Member Comments**
16. **Board Member Engagement Opportunities** Berenice Jaquez
17. **Public Comment**
18. **Adjournment**

The Workforce Connection Board is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Program.

A sign language interpreter, alternative format materials, or infrared assistive listening devices will be made available with 72-hour notice. Additional reasonable accommodations will be made available upon request.

In accordance with the Illinois Open Meeting Act, The Workforce Connection Board may enter into a meeting session closed to the public to discuss issues identified as appropriate for a closed session.